

JOHN AND MARY FELDERMAN FARM  
Northeast Corner of County Road 56  
and County Road T  
Clarkville Vicinity  
Yuma County  
Colorado

HABS NO. CO-129

HABS  
COLO  
63-CLKV,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

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JOHN AND MARY FELDERMAN FARM

HABS No. CO-129

Location: Southwest 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 22, Township 5 North, Range 46 West, Sixth Prime Meridian. Yuma County, Colorado. North of the intersection of County Road 56 and County Road S, vicinity of Clarkville, Colorado.

UTM: 13: 712940, 4473100 (house)

Present Owner: Farmers Home Administration,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Present Occupant: Vacant

Present Use: None

Statement of  
Significance:

The John and Mary Felderman Farm, located on the high plains of eastern Colorado in Yuma County, is a small family farm. The farm was established in 1906 and was operated by the Feldermans for almost four decades. The farmstead includes a 1912 hipped roof cottage with Victorian-style porch and dormer detailing, a large, gabled, wood frame barn, root cellars, shed, stable and well pump house.

The Feldermans were unusual in that they raised horses rather than the traditional dryland crops and cattle. When the market for draft horses was replaced by vehicles powered by internal combustion engines, the farm owners adapted to other operations, including grain and beef cattle production, hog-raising and dairying.

The Felderman Farm illustrates the adaptive nature of the high plains farmers of Yuma County, Colorado. Adaptation to the harsh, dry environment was and remains a common pattern in the history of the area of the Felderman Farm.

In addition, the Felderman Farm house is an example of the late nineteenth century vernacular hipped cottage. The east (rear) and west (front) sides give the appearance of

a hipped cottage and demonstrate a clear connection to one of the Colorado plains stylistic traditions of the closing years of the nineteenth century. However, the house is actually a combination of two such building forms connected by a central section that served as a living room larger than those typical of the earlier hipped cottages.

Project Statement: This Historic American Building Survey (HABS) recording project is part of a long term program to document historically significant buildings in the United States. The Farmers Home Administration (FMHA) provided funding for the project as a requirement of FMHA's Section 106 mitigation of the sale of the property.

The field work, measured drawings, historical reports and photographs were prepared under the direction of Deborah Andrews of Andrews & Anderson under contract to the Farmers Home Administration, U. S. D. A. Deborah Andrews, Nanon Anderson and Karen Hardaway of Andrews & Anderson did the field measurements and architectural delineations. Arnold Thallheimer undertook the photography. Steven Mehls of Western Historical Studies, under subcontract to Andrews & Anderson, served as project historian.

Historian: Steven F. Mehls, Western Historical Studies, Inc., May 21, 1992

PART I. HISTORICAL DATA

Date of Erection: 1912 (house)

Architect: John and Mary Felderman (builders)

Historical Narrative:

The Felderman Farm is a recently abandoned farmstead located on the plains of northeastern Colorado in Yuma County. It is named for the Feldermans, John and Mary, who built the house and many of the other structures now extant at the farmstead. The Feldermans lived at the site continually, as owner farmers from 1906 until their retirement in 1946.<sup>1</sup> They are the longest tenured occupants of the farm. The Feldermans reared horses on the farm, apparently using most of the land (480 acres) for raising hay and as pastures. When they arrived on the farm it was undeveloped land that others had attempted to farm and settle, but had failed.<sup>2</sup>

The area of Colorado where the Felderman Farm and Yuma County are located is a dry, high plains, sand hills environment far from the Rocky Mountains typically associated with Colorado. The eastern border of Yuma County is also the eastern border of Colorado with Kansas and Nebraska. The major water course that passes through the County is the Arikaree Fork of the Republican River. Other, minor streams in the county tend to be tributary to either the Republican River or the South Platte River. The Republican flows into Kansas, and the South Platte River, which lies north of the area, flows into Nebraska. Before intensive Euroamerican settlement the area was a natural grassland used by Native Americans for thousands of years.<sup>3</sup>

The arrival of substantial numbers of Euroamericans in Colorado during the Gold Rush of 1859 led to increased tensions on the plains. Although farm settlement was not eminent, battles between the Native Americans and the U.S. Army resulted in the loss of Indian claims to the lands and opened the way to settlement. At approximately the same time, cattlemen were opening the eastern plains to settlement, and trails were developed to allow for transporting cattle, people and goods into the area. The area remained isolated despite the numbers of cattle crossing the area.

By the early 1880s the cattle business and other industries led Midwestern railroad companies to consider expanding their operations into Colorado. The first rails had reached Colorado during the late 1860s and, in 1870, railroads connected Denver

to the rest of the nation. Little over a decade after the first locomotives reached Denver, a new round of rail building began extending service to more of northeastern Colorado, including the area that would become Yuma County. The Burlington and Missouri River Railway, a subsidiary of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, viewed Denver as a rich market and began to extend its line west from McCook, Nebraska. The Burlington opened its Denver service during the early 1880s. The new line crossed Yuma County and led to the founding of a number of towns during the decade. The railroad also led to the establishment of a complementary wagon road system during the 1880s and early 1890s. Moreover, the railroad offered transportation to most of what became Yuma County from the East. Through the Burlington's land and emigration departments, the company encouraged many farmers to move to the area before and after the turn of the century.<sup>4</sup>

At least one example of the Burlington's promotional literature has survived that specifically mentioned and described Yuma County and its farming and ranching possibilities. Similar to the pieces from many other western railroads, the Burlington writers praised the County as an area that would or could be made to bloom with patience and hard work. The publication made claims as to the productivity of the land and informed farmers that, despite the drier conditions than the East or Midwest, many crops could be grown with a success rate not known elsewhere. To allay any concerns about growing conditions potential settlers might have, the authors pointed to increasing rainfall that had begun soon after the rails arrived in the area. What the writers, of course, did not realize is that the high plains weather patterns had changed temporarily, and the area had entered a wetter than normal cycle. Since the Burlington Railroad was always looking for potential new customers, grazing possibilities in Yuma were discussed in their promotional literature. The tone of the grazing discussion was one intended not to frighten farmers or raise fears that cattlemen would oppose their land entries. The booklet made Yuma County seem to be "the" place to move to and other high plains areas sound less desirable. Yuma County was to have been the Garden of Eden, without serpents.<sup>5</sup>

In addition to the presence of the railroad, other circumstances made the later 1880s profitable years for the pioneer farmers of the area. Much of the range had been over grazed and abandoned by ranchers. Farmers then occupied these lands. Precipitation fell at heavier than usual rates, guaranteeing adequate water. This precipitation included the blizzards of 1887 and 1888 that significantly added to the problems for many of the open range bonanza ranches, but proved beneficial for farmers. New advances

in farm machinery including the use of steam powered tractors allowed individuals to plant and harvest a larger acreage. The increases in plowed acreage coincided with a decline in livestock prices and numbers. The ranchers that remained began to look at alternative methods, such as winter feeding, as a way to reduce their losses from the vagaries of nature. Despite these actions, ranchers continued to abandon holdings. Farmers and speculators claimed more and more former ranch land for cultivation or to hold for future sale at higher prices.<sup>6</sup> The population boom caused the state legislature to organize Yuma County in 1889. A few years later, in 1903, more land was added to Yuma County, making it the size and form it remains today.<sup>7</sup>

It was during this late 1880s-early 1890s boom that the first land claiming activity on what would become the Felderman farm took place. According to historical records, George Collins claimed the southeast 1/4 of Section 22, Township 5 north, Range 46 west on June 11, 1889. He held the property until 1901 when the Feldermans acquired the property for \$5.78 in back taxes. A few years later, in 1906, they took up residence on the parcel. The Feldermans came to Yuma shortly before the turn of the twentieth century. John and Mary had been born in Germany and then settled in Iowa. Their two sons and daughter were born in Iowa and accompanied them west to Colorado. In 1907 John Felderman received final patent to the 160 acres.<sup>8</sup> During this same period the Feldermans also homesteaded the adjacent southwest 1/4 of Section 22, Township 5 north, Range 46 west. They obtained the patent to that property from the General Land Office on May 15, 1907.<sup>9</sup> The Feldermans began a building program that included the barn (HABS CO-129-B) in 1907 and two sheds the next year. By 1912 they had completed their home and other features that constituted the core farmstead.<sup>10</sup>

The Feldermans and other Yuma County farmers of the period benefitted from the experiences of others. Settlers during the 1880s and 1890s who failed due to drought, such as the Felderman Farm's first occupant, George Collins, caused agronomists to turn their attentions to possible ways for farmers to successfully till the high plains. Teachings of authorities such as Professor Hardy W. Campbell of the University of Nebraska in Lincoln advocated that cyclic field use followed by fallow periods, as well as deep tilling, could increase the soil's water retaining ability. Adequate moisture would accumulate for successful crop planting during the fallow years. These techniques, combined with new types of plants and farm equipment, led to dramatic growth in Yuma County agricultural production.<sup>11</sup> Campbell was a representative of the Burlington in Yuma County for two years promoting his methodology.

Despite the problems of the 1890s drought, local farm and ranch production records reveal a general upward trend for the thirty years from 1890 through the end of World War I. In 1890, the first year for which reports are available, Yuma County had 436 farms with fewer than 100,000 acres in cultivation. By 1900, the number of farms had dropped to under 300 but the average size had increased approximately 20%. By 1910, nearly one-half of the County was farmed, and over 300,000 acres were in cultivation. However, by 1920, the number of cultivated acres had quadrupled to over 1.2 million acres in farms and the value of farm products exceeded \$15 million annually.<sup>12</sup> The Feldermans were clearly part of this trend as they continued to increase their production throughout this period.

The Feldermans apparently tried their hand at many different types of farming before undertaking horse raising. However, the exact date they began to raise horses is unknown.<sup>13</sup> By 1917, 15,261 horses were being raised in Yuma County. This compares with 35,289 range cattle and 1,830 milch (milk) cattle. Sheep were still a minority at 920, while hogs totalled 9,185. Statewide, horse raising increased in the years 1917 and 1918. The number of horses in Colorado increased approximately 5% over that one year period. No doubt, the need for horses was a result of military demands during World War I.<sup>14</sup> From other records it appears that the Feldermans enjoyed about 15 years of success and prosperity as did many other farmers in and around Yuma County.

Much of the credit for settling the Colorado plains belongs to women. While individual experiences are unknown outside of families, within the community the role of women cannot be underestimated. Women were part of the farmer's frontier, but their presence is often under-recorded in the written record. Recent histories have failed to find consensus on the exact role of women on the Colorado plains. However, women were part and parcel of the farming and ranching experience that allowed them to be partners and civilizers as well as entrepreneurs.<sup>15</sup>

The historic record indicates that Mary Felderman was indeed a partner in the family business. She was the owner of record of the southeast quarter of Section 22 after 1909 and co-owner of the southwest quarter of the same Section. With her help, the farm prospered during the 1910s enough that the couple could expand their holdings by another 160 acres in 1918 when they bought the northwest 1/4 of Section 27, Township 5 north, Range 46 west. This parcel was directly south and adjacent to the parcel in which they had their farmstead.<sup>16</sup> During this period, with Mary's help, the horse herds increased to as many as 400

animals, possibly taking advantage of the boom prices being paid for all farm products during World War I.<sup>17</sup>

World War I aided Yuma County's early twentieth century dryland boom. The wartime needs encouraged continued increases in all types of farm and ranch output. Existing farms could not meet the demands and new immigrants came into the region to take advantage of land opportunities. In addition, marginal lands were placed into production in order to take advantage of high crop prices. By 1918 more than 64% of the County's lands had been patented and placed into production. Farming was the fastest growing segment of county agriculture. That same year the Colorado Board of Trade estimated that 2,494 acres were irrigated, 493,058 acres were farmed without irrigation and, 4,757 acres were utilized for grazing and hay production. That body further estimated that the value of irrigated land averaged \$100 to 150 per acre; non-irrigated land was worth \$10 to 75 per acre. The farming boom drew heavily on the Midwest and West for new farmers. Only 6.2% of the County's population was foreign born, primarily German, Russian and Swedish. This boom in population and land values proved short lived.<sup>18</sup>

The early 1920s witnessed the Felderman family, among many others in Yuma County and elsewhere on the plains of northeastern Colorado, encountering difficulties, both financial and otherwise. Area farmers and ranchers attempted to adjust to the decreased markets and prices as European agriculture recovered from the War. For the Feldermans this strain became evident by 1923 when they could not pay their property taxes. In 1924 they raised enough money to pay the back taxes, but borrowed \$4,000 from the Federal Land Bank to stay in business and complete their acquisition of the 160 acres in Section 27.<sup>19</sup> County-wide the number of horses dropped during the 1920s, but most telling was the sharp downward trend in the number of young horses, falling, in Yuma County, from over 4,000 in 1920 to slightly over 1,000 animals by 1925. Quite possibly the Feldermans introduced other livestock on their pastures, particularly hogs or cattle. Scant evidence indicates that the family also began to raise more corn and other grains to feed the livestock in an attempt to offset their other, lost income. During the 1920s the County led Colorado in corn and hog production.<sup>20</sup>

During the late 1920s farm produce prices rose, but hopes for a new prosperity were dashed on October 23, 1929 when the New York Stock Market crashed and the Great Depression began. Adverse weather conditions further affected agricultural markets already weakened by the stock market crash. After the wet years of the 1920s, the early 1930s saw below average rainfall. The natural



aridity of the region combined with increased tillage of marginal lands resulted in once rich fields blowing away in wind storms. The heavy winds of 1932-33 caused so called dust blizzards or "Dusters." These storms were regularly reported on daily radio and newspapers with the weather forecast. Northeastern Colorado, including Yuma County, was not officially part of the designated "Dust Bowl" used to describe the blowing conditions. The federal government geographically defined the "Dust Bowl" and southern Colorado was officially included, but northeastern Colorado was not. Nonetheless, conditions in Yuma County resulted in area farmers and ranchers suffering like their counterparts in the southern portion of the state. Many who could afford to left the area looking for better opportunities elsewhere. Others faced the threat of borrowing, tax sales or foreclosure.<sup>21</sup>

The Feldermans found themselves in the threatened tax sale category and became debtors by the middle of 1931. They failed to pay their taxes on their holdings in Section 22 in 1930, but redeemed their land in 1931, after borrowing from the Federal Land Bank. At that point in time they had two notes with the Land Bank, the one from 1924 mentioned above and the new, 1931, note. The 1932 taxes on Mary Felderman's land in the southeast quarter of Section 22 went unpaid in 1932, but she redeemed the parcel in 1933. However, they allowed the taxes to lapse on all their lands in 1933 and again found themselves in the shadow of a tax sale in 1934 before they could pay their taxes. That year they borrowed more from the Land Bank. In Yuma County, the number of farms in 1930 numbered 2,113. In 1935 the number of farms numbered 2,176. The increase in number of farms appears to be attributable to the high debt ratio. In order to pay taxes and mortgages, parcels were sold to raise cash, thus increasing the total number of farms. For the Feldermans, these debts went unpaid until the 1940s and the World War II caused agricultural prosperity.<sup>22</sup>

Despite their financial difficulties, the Feldermans attempted improvements designed to help prevent soil erosion. The Feldermans took part in a Federally-sponsored windbreak planting program. The program, most active in Yuma County during the mid-1930s (1933-37), was, and still is managed by the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service. Free saplings were provided to farmers who agreed to plant and maintain them. The species planted in Colorado included American Elm, Chinese Elm, Juniper, and to a lesser extent pine and blue spruce. The Feldermans planted American Elms and as a result, their farm presently has one of the many mature tree stands that accent the otherwise flat landscape of the Colorado plains.

By the 1940s the Feldermans were approaching retirement age, having farmed for more than forty years. The Feldermans apparently concentrated on debt reduction, paying off the mortgages during 1943 and 1945. They also added grain bins to the property during the war years indicating movement away from horse raising into grain production. These bins were later replaced in the 1970s. All of these improvements stretched the Felderman's finances to the limits and the 1945 taxes went unpaid until the following year. That year marked the Felderman's retirement from Yuma County farming when they sold their lands to Melvin and Laura Ellis in May.<sup>23</sup>

The sale to the Ellises marked a definitive change in the character of the farm both in ownership patterns and land uses. No longer would one family hold and farm the property for long periods of time. Instead, the property changed hands on the average of every 9.75 years. The Ellises attempted to grow grains and raise hogs, but neither product apparently proved profitable by the early 1950s. From 1952 through 1957, when they sold the farm, the Ellises either borrowed money or allowed the taxes to lapse each year. In 1957 they sold the farm to Cecil and Bernice Salvador, descendants of a pioneer Yuma County farm family.<sup>24</sup>

Cecil, born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in 1905, was the son of French emigrant Frank Salvador and his wife Bertha. The family moved to Yuma County during the farming boom of World War I. They took up land a few miles north and east of the Felderman place. The Frank Salvador Farm was at the community of Wages, a crossroads store and church location, typical of the area and much of rural America during those years. Cecil and his wife, Bernice, farmed other lands around the immediate area before acquiring the Felderman property. They owned the old Felderman farm for twenty years, making them the second longest tenured farmers. In 1966 they sold the property to Roland and Darlene Hackett and retired from active farming.<sup>25</sup>

The Hacketts held the property only three years before financial troubles overtook them. The Hacketts, unable to succeed at raising hogs were forced to sell the property in March, 1969. They sold the 480 acres to Lloyd, Burnell and Keith Holcomb for \$10 and assumption of the mortgages. The Felderman farmstead under discussion went to Keith and Wava Holcomb and they set about to continue raising hogs. The Holcombs moved to Colorado from Michigan, where they had been farmers.<sup>26</sup>

During the early 1970s the Holcombs decided to convert the farm to a dairy farm. The Holcombs indicated that some limited dairying had been conducted at the farm for a number of years by the time the Holcombs purchased the property, but that activity had never been the key focus of the farm. However, by 1974 they made the decision to convert the farm and a new building program, as extensive as the one undertaken by the Feldermans during the years from 1908 to 1912, was begun. The biggest change was the construction of a new milking barn in 1974, followed soon thereafter by the addition of new feeding areas, feed storage facilities and livestock sheds, all during the later part of the 1970s. These improvements were financed on borrowed money and an apparent endless upward spiral in the paper land values of the decade. All across the nation land prices skyrocketed and banks loaned money against the inflated values. Eventually the Holcombs would be over \$400,000 in debt before the bottom fell out of the agricultural land market. They tried dairying for eleven years before the unpaid taxes and skipped loan payments caught up with them. In 1986 the Federal Land Bank won a judgment against Keith and Wava Holcomb. As a result, the property has been idle for the past half dozen years, awaiting the next farmer.<sup>27</sup>

The present John and Mary Felderman Farm stands as testimony to the struggles and adaptations that farmers have made to the arid, windy high plains environment of eastern Colorado. The house, barn, stable and other structures date to the Felderman ownership and operation of the farm. Through most of their tenure the Feldermans used the property to raise draft (work) horses. Evidences of the horse raising are most apparent in the presence and character of the barn (HABS CO-129-B) and stable (HABS CO-129-I). Other buildings and structures exemplify the ways Yuma County, Colorado farmers met other needs. For example, the root cellar (HABS CO-129-C) and windmill symbolize efficient, adaptive methods of food storage and water. Newer buildings, such as the milking barn (HABS CO-129-K), offer examples of changes that have been made by subsequent owners as they continued to search for ways to succeed on the Colorado high plains.

The architecture of the Felderman Farm offers important examples of vernacular architecture on the Colorado plains during the early twentieth century. The Felderman Farm house is an example of a vernacular hipped cottage. The east (rear) and west (front) sides give the appearance of a hipped cottage and show a clear connection to one of the Colorado plains stylistic traditions of the closing years of the nineteenth century. The barn, stable and other outbuildings also represent significant trends and material usage by Colorado plains farmers

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during the twentieth century. The forms and materials of all the buildings, even the newer ones, offer examples of the building traditions important to the agricultural history of the area. In sum, the Felderman Farm is not only important for its history of adaptation to the natural environment, but also as a collective example of local building styles and traditions.

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Information

The standing buildings at the Felderman farmstead include the main house, a large horse barn, a garage, a chicken coop, a workshop, a milking barn, two metal grain bins, a windmill, a pump house, a root cellar, five sheds, an underground storage building, a pole and fence wire corn crib, corrals and feeding areas. The house is an example of early twentieth century vernacular, Colorado plains architecture. As it stands today, the house exhibits only minimal exterior change from what it looked like when it was built. Most of the main house's original fabric on the interior and exterior remains visible despite a coat of spray-applied asbestos on the exterior. Landscaping at the farm includes large and medium American Elm trees north and west of the main house as a shelter belt, the remains of a garden area and an abandoned orchard. There are various animal care areas scattered around the farmstead, including feeding lots, a large feeding trough system and a feed storage crib for hay or unshelled corn. Additionally, there are a water storage pond and an underground silo near the corrals and barn. Another feature, a machinery and household dump, is located at the extreme southern edge of the farmstead. Plowed fields of winter wheat and fallow fields surround the farmstead.

According to local informants, the pole sheds, shop building, many of present corrals and other minor features date to the 1960s and 1970s.<sup>28</sup> The Yuma County appraisal records for the property support those construction dates. The appraisal cards indicate a 1915 date of construction for the stable, even though its style appears to date to earlier era. No indications were found that any of the buildings were brought onto the property from elsewhere. Rather, all the structures appear to have been built on the site. The two metal grain bins were erected during the early 1970s and replaced earlier, 1940s bins. A third bin was planned but never built.<sup>29</sup>

PART III.

PROJECT INFORMATION

The Farmers Home Administration (FMHA) provided funding for the project as a requirement of FMHA's Section 106 mitigation of the sale of the property. The Felderman Farm will be directly impacted by Farmers Home Administration activities including asbestos removal and later sale of the property. In all likelihood the house, barn and many of the other structures will be removed by any new owner.

Endnotes

1. Patent Record U.S. to John and Mary Felderman, and Deed from John and Mary Felderman to Melvin and Laura Ellis, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Wray, CO.

2. U.S.D.I., Bureau of Land Management, Historical Indices, Township 5N, Range 46W, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, CO.

3. Steven F. Mehls, The New Empire of the Rockies. A History of Northeastern Colorado, (Denver: Bureau of Land Management, 1984), pp. 9, 11, 13-16.

4. Thomas J. Noel, "All Hail the Denver Pacific: Denver's First Railroad," The Colorado Magazine 50(Spring 1973):91-116; and Robert G. Athearn, Union Pacific County, (Chicago: Rand McNally, 1971), pp. 133-34, 224; and Richard C. Overton, Burlington Route: A History of the Burlington Lines, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1965), pp. 163-173.

5. No Author, Ho! for Colorado, Short Description of Yuma and Yuma County, Colorado, Situated in Northeastern Colorado on the Line of the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad in "The Great Yuma Valley," One of the Greatest Agricultural and Stock Raising Districts in the West, (Denver: Smith-Brooks and Burlington and Missouri River RR., 1891).

6. U.S.D.I., Bureau of Land Management, "Historical Indices and Patent Records for Townships 2 through 6 North, Ranges 42-48 West," various dates, microfiche on file at Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office, Lakewood, CO., and Dedman, "Yuma," pp. 31, 161-162.

7. Dedman, "Yuma," pp. 29, 31.
8. Book 36, page 16, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Wray, CO.
9. Ibid., Book 26, page 265.
10. Appraisal Records, Parcel 63-0999-223-00-070, Yuma County Assessor's Office, Wray, CO.
11. Dedman, "Yuma," pp. 163-166, Steinel, Agriculture, pp. 283-310. For a discussion of Campbell and well irrigation on the high plains after 1900 see: Donald E. Green, Land of Underground Rain, (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1973).
12. U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 11th Census of the United States Taken In the Year 1890, Agriculture, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1891). p. 126, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 12th Census of the United States Taken In the Year 1900, Agriculture, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1901). p. 66, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 13th Census of the United States Taken In the Year 1910, Agriculture, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913). p. 816, U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 15th Census of the United States Taken In the Year 1930, Agriculture, (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1932), p. 252.
13. Personal Communication, Scott Miller, Farmers Home Administration to Velma Schelly, 17 January 1991, notes on file, Farmers Home Administration, Wray, CO.
14. State Board of Immigration, Yearbook of the State of Colorado, 1918, (Denver: State Board of Immigration, 1918), pp. 38-41.
15. Julie Roy Jeffrey, Frontier Women, The Trans-Mississippi West, 1840-1880, (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), and Sandra L. Myres, Westering Women and the Frontier Experience, 1880-1915, (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1982), and Nell Brown Propst, Those Strenuous Dames of the Colorado Prairie, (Boulder: Pruett Publishing Co., 1982), and Katherine L. H. Harris, "Women and Families on Northeastern Colorado Homesteads, 1873-1920," (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Colorado, Boulder, 1983).

16. Book 78, page 363, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office.
17. Schelly, personal communication, January 17, 1991.
18. 1918 Yearbook, pp. 192-193.
19. Book 173, page 72, Book 78, page 363, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office.
20. Bureau of the Census, 15th Census, Agriculture, p. 267, Dedman, "Yuma," pp. 168-171, Schelly, personal communication.
21. Mehls, New Empire, pp. 156-158, and James E. Wickens, "Colorado and the Great Depression: A Study of New Deal Policies at the State Level," (Ph.D. dissertation, University of Denver, 1964), pp. 214-216, 253-256.
22. Tax Sale Certificates 7753, 7754 and 9106, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Book 214, page 431, Book 230, page 481, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office; Colorado State Planning Commission, Yearbook of the State of Colorado, 1937-1938, (Denver: Colorado State Planning Commission, 1938), p. 128.
23. Book 279 page 481, Book 290 page 44, Book 293 page 385, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, and Appraisal Record 63-0999-223-00-070, Yuma County Assessor's Office.
24. Book 338 page 8, Book 356 page 68, Book 357 page 159, Book 361 pages 52 and 268, Book 369 page 366, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office.
25. Ibid., Book 411 page 296 and Book 439 pages 274-275, Shirley Starnes, ed., West Yuma County, A History of West Yuma County, 1886-1986, (Denver: Taylor Publishing Co., 1985), pp. 409-411.
26. Book 454 pages 216 and 217, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, Personal Communication, Wauneta Holcomb to Deborah Andrews, 6 May 1992.
27. Book 481 pages 163, 261, 495 and 501, Book 482 page 518, Book 483 page 189, Book 485 page 395, Book 605 page 125 and Book 638 page 517, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office, and Wauneta Holcomb, Personal Communication.



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28.Ibid.

29.Appraisal Card, Yuma County Assessor's Office, and S.F.  
Mehls, Field Observation, 18 May 1992.